

LONG EATON LOCAL BOARD.

EIGHTH
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER, 1894.

A. B. CHAMBERS, M.D., M.CH.,
Medical Officer of Health.

SOUTH HOUSE, LONG EATON,
January 11th, 1895.

J. W. STODDART, PRINTER, LONG EATON.



MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have great pleasure in submitting to you my Eighth and last Report under the old system of the Local Board, which ends with this year, and whose duties will be conducted in the future by the New Urban District Council.

The number of Births registered in the District during the year 1894, amounted to 351, against 385 in 1893, and 318 in 1892, 34 less than last year; giving a Birth-rate per 1000 of 31·9, estimating the population to the middle of the year at 11,000 as near as I can calculate.

The number of Deaths registered during the year amounted to 127, against 166 last year, showing a total decrease of 39, and 169 in 1892, 139 in 1891, which shows a Death-rate of 11·5 per 1000 per annum, against 16·61 in 1892, 14·42 in 1891, and 12·5 in 1890. This is the lowest Death-rate we have had for several years. Of these 127 deaths, 7 were from Scarlet Fever, 2 Diphtheria, 2 Croup, 1 Puerperal Fever, 1 Erysipelas, 5 Whooping Cough, 2 Diarrhoea, 10 Phthisis, 14 Bronchitis, Pleurisy, and Pneumonia, 9 Heart Disease, 4 Injuries, 70 from all other diseases. 43 of the total have died under one year of age, or nearly one third.

The following table shows the age at which the deaths occurred:—

Deaths under 1 year	...	...	...	...	43	59 under 5 years
1 and under 5	...	...	...	...	16	
5 " " 15	...	...	...	...	12	
15 " " 25	...	...	...	...	6	68 over 5 years
25 " " 65	...	...	...	...	31	
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	19	
Total at all ages					127	

From this table it will be seen that 59 of the total number of deaths were under 5 years of age, and 68 over 5 years of age, or nearly half were under 5 years. Last year the number of deaths under 1 year were 48, in 1892 17, and 59 in 1891.

The following table shows the Deaths according to disease:—

Fever	Small Pox	...	...	...	...	0	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	5
	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	7	Diarrhoea and Dysentery	...	...	...	...	2
	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	2	Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	0
	Croup Memb.	...	...	...	...	2	Ague	...	...	...	...	0
	Typhus	...	...	...	...	0	Phthisis	...	...	...	...	10
	Typhoid	...	...	...	...	0	Bronchitis, Pleurisy	...	...	...	...	
	Continued	...	...	...	...	0	and Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	14
	Relapsing	...	...	...	...	0	Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	9
	Puerperal	...	...	...	...	1	Injuries	...	...	...	...	4
	Cholera	...	...	...	...	0	All other diseases	...	...	...	...	70
	Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	1						
	Measles	...	...	...	...	0						
												Total ... 127

The following table shows the number of Deaths from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases, for eight years:—

			1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.							
Small Pox	...	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	1	...	0				
Measles	...	...	1	...	0	...	3	...	2	...	0	...	0				
Scarlet Fever	...	...	0	...	0	...	1	...	0	...	2	...	8	...	7		
Diphtheria	...	...	0	...	2	...	0	...	0	...	1	...	3	...	0	...	2
Whooping Cough	...	...	0	...	11	...	3	...	2	...	1	...	3	...	10	...	5
Typhoid Fever	...	...	2	...	2	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	2	...	3	...	0
Diarrhoea	...	...	6	...	2	...	3	...	3	...	2	...	1	...	5	...	2
Totals			9	...	17	...	10	...	7	...	4	...	26	...	27	...	16
All other Diseases			54	...	54	...	44	...	63	...	74	...	65	...	80	...	70
General Death-rate			14·2	...	13·1	...	11·1	...	12·5	...	14·42	...	16·61	...	15·61	...	11·5
Zymotic Rate			0·8	...	1·6	...	0·7	...	0·6	...	0·4	...	2·45	...	2·54	...	0·12
Totals			142	...	131	...	111	...	125	...	139	...	169	...	166	...	127

The following table shows the number of Infectious Diseases reported to me, or coming to my notice during the last five years:—

	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.		1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
Small Pox	...	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	0
Cholera	...	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	0
Diphtheria	...	...	0	...	13	...	16	...	5	...	4
Croup	...	...	0	...	0	...	1	...	2	...	5
Erysipelas	...	...	2	...	8	...	27	...	24	...	19
Scarlet Fever	...	...	2	...	4	...	28	...	145	...	157
Typhus	...	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	0
Typhoid	...	...	4	...	13	...	2	...	23	...	4
Puerperal Fever	...	...	0	...	3	...	2	...	2	...	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	25	...	15	...	91	...	0	...	39
Measles	...	...	13	...	13	...	560	...	4	...	8
Totals	...	...	46	...	129	...	717	...	210	...	237

GENERAL REPORT.

Zymotic Diseases. Measles	There were no Deaths from Measles this year, and only 8 cases were reported altogether.
Smallpox.	There was no case of Smallpox in the district during the year.
Scarlet Fever.	There were 7 Deaths from Scarlet Fever registered during the year, and 157 cases notified altogether. Last year's epidemic seems to have continued from the end of the year into January of this year, and on through the year, month after month, at the rate of two or three cases a week, right through the town, spreading in all directions. No definite cause could be ascertained in particular cases. It seemed to spread and be kept alive through the agency of the Schools. Having ascertained the school at which each child was attending, I found that the largest number of cases were reported from the Derby road School, the High-street Board School comes next, and after that the National School, and the Sawley Road Board School last. This would seem to point to the fact that the school which afforded the most accommodation for the children had the least infection in it, and as the school seemed to be more crowded there appears to have been a proportionate increase in the number of cases reported from that school. As a precaution I would suggest that the Schools be linewashed and disinfected during each vacation, which would tend to prevent fresh infection when the Schools opened again. The great difficulty we have to contend with in checking the spread of the disease is want of isolation when the first cases occur, as we have no isolation Hospital here, nor any place to send them to elsewhere, and no disinfecting chamber, isolation in patients' homes is next to impossible, as there is not room enough in the cottages to keep them apart.
Diphtheria.	There were two Deaths from Diphtheria in children. The first case reported, the child caught the disease from its mother, and we could not trace any local cause for the mother's case. The other child that died, we found on enquiry, was playing with the first child, and so caught the infection in that way. There were only 4 cases reported during the year, the other 3 being directly infected from the first case. There seems to be a considerable decrease for the last few years in the number of cases reported, which speaks well for the sanitary condition of the district.
Croup.	There were only 5 cases reported during the year.
Erysipelas.	19 cases were reported—some traumatic, and others idiopathic.
Typhoid Fever	There were only 4 cases of Typhoid Fever reported during the year; and no deaths. Two of these cases were imported into the town from other districts, the patients being removed while ill. The third case was also traced to an infection outside of the town, so that really there was only one case reported which could be traced to any local cause, and that was supposed to be due to some sanitary defects in connection with the Drainage. It is satisfactory to note the decrease in the number of cases of Typhoid and Diphtheria reported to the Sanitary Authority, which doubtless is due in a great measure to the splendid water supply we have had for the last couple of years. The Town Water has been already supplied to about 1351 houses in the district, out of a total of a little over 2000, besides being supplied to nearly all the large factories in the town. Wells are being continually closed where the water has been found not to be good, and the Town Water supplied instead; no more wells are being made, the Town Water being laid on to all the new houses as they are built. In a few years there will be very few wells left. I would suggest that samples of the Town Water be sent to the Analyst of the County Council at least twice a year for examination, to guard the continued purity of the supply, and detect early any impurity that possibly may occur.
Puerperal Fever	Only one case reported.
Whooping Cough	39 cases were reported.
Diarrhoea	There were only 2 cases of Deaths reported.
Constitutional Diseases	Only 14 Deaths were reported from Bronchitis, Pleurisy, and Pneumonia.
Injuries	4 Deaths from Injuries.
Coroner's Inquests	8 Coroners Inquests.
Lodging Houses	There is only one registered. It has not been very well conducted. It has recently changed hands and more strict regulations will be enforced for the future. No case of Infectious Disease has been reported from it during the year.

**Bakehouses
and
Slaughter
Houses**

Were inspected and found to be clean and whitewashed according to the Bye-laws.

**Food
Supplies**

Weekly inspections have been regularly made of the meat offered for sale in the Market Place on Saturdays, and only in one instance did I find meat so bad that I had occasion to have it seized. I seized eight pieces of beef that were diseased, and exposed for sale by a Derby butcher, which I brought before a Magistrate and got an order for its destruction. It was buried at the Sewage Farm. The man was summoned, but he fled the country to avoid being punished.

**Inspection and
Abatement
of Nuisances**

The Surveyor's Report will be annexed, with details of the work done during the year, and the steps taken in each case.

Factories

Mr. Austin's Factory still remains without the necessary alterations in the closets for females; the factory steps are also dirty, and accumulations of dust and waste allowed to remain there from day to day. The walls require whitewashing.

**Smoke
Nuisances**

There has been only one complaint made.

Complaints are still made about the smell from the Manholes in the streets. Regular flushing seems to be the best remedy that can be adopted.

Taking the District as a whole, I consider the sanitary condition very satisfactory. The Death-rate is low, and with the exception of Scarlet Fever, there have been very few infectious diseases reported.

I have the honour to remain,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. B. CHAMBERS, M.D.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

JANUARY 11TH, 1895.

